

Florida House of Representatives

Representative Sandra “Sandy” Adams

District 33

Reply to:

2074 Winter Springs Blvd.
Oviedo, FL 32765
(407) 977-4020 Phone
(407) 977-4022 Fax

222 The Capitol
402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1300
(850) 488-0468 Phone

(Chair) Criminal & Civil Justice Appropriations Committee
Criminal & Civil Justice Policy Council
Public Safety & Domestic Security Policy Committee
Rules and Calendar Council
Full Appropriations Council on General Government & Healthcare
Full Appropriations Council on Education & Economic Development
(Vice Chair) Select Committee on Seminole Indian Compact Review

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 24, 2010

CONTACT: Trish Brimmer-Caton

(850) 488-0468

REPRESENTATIVE ADAMS’ EMPLOYEE VERIFICATION BILL PASSES COMMITTEE

TALLAHASSEE, FL – Representative Sandy Adams (R-Oviedo) today welcomed the unanimous passage of House Bill (PCS/HB) 219, also known as the E-Verify bill, in the Governmental Affairs Policy Committee. The legislation prohibits agencies from entering into contract for services with contractors not registered and participating in the federal work authorization program. The bill also requires the Department of the Lottery to verify that the winner of a prize from specified lottery games is a citizen of or legally present in the United States.

“In today’s challenging economic environment, getting Florida’s economy back on track and creating the conditions necessary for job creation are my top legislative priority,” stated Representative Adams. “I feel strongly that we must be focusing on job creation for Floridians who are seriously impacted by jobs going to individuals who are here illegally. Those who hire illegal workers may save a few dollars but they are costing Floridians jobs. This situation must be corrected and my bill is a significant step to job creation and adherence to federal law.”

(more)

The federal Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 made it illegal for any U.S. employer to knowingly hire, recruit or refer for a fee an alien knowing he or she is unauthorized to work. The employer is barred from employing an alien knowing he or she has become unauthorized or hire, recruit or refer for a fee any person (citizen or alien) without following the record keeping requirements of the Act. This law established a procedure that employers must follow to verify that employees are authorized to work in the United States. The procedure requires employees to present documents that establish both the worker's identity and eligibility to work. This procedure is required of all employers, regardless of size.

HB 219 requires specified contractors and subcontractors to certify in writing that they have registered with and participate in a federal work authorization program. Compliance with this requirement is phased in between July 1, 2011 and July 1, 2013, based upon the number of employees employed by a specified contractor or subcontractor.

The bill now moves to the House Policy Council.

###